1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Flower	Tamil Nadu	0.30	33.40	33.40
18.	Lychee, Vegetables & Honey	Bihar	5.87	5.87	5.87
19.	Value Added Onion	Gujarat	93.42	93.42	150.00
20.	Flowers and Cherry Pepper	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Apples	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Ginger and Turmeric	Orissa	0.00	1.25	1.76
23.	Vegetables	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Horticulture Products	Kerala	212.00	212.00	212.00
25.	Fresh & Processed Ginger	Assam	2.17	2.17	2.17

(Source: APEDA)

The AEZs were sanctioned based on the export potential of the agri products identified in the study carried out for the purpose.

(c) An action plan based on the findings of the peer evaluation drawn up in consultation with the State Governments, includes constitution of the State Level Coordination Committee and Monitoring Committee and nomination of nodal agencies for the AEZ. It has also been decided to engage M/s. Yes Bank as advisor for fast tracking development of AEZs and support export infrastructure projects in the AEZs with funds from the Scheme of Department of Commerce for Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development. One of the guidelines under the plan is a self imposed embargo on creation of new AEZs unless there are strong and compelling reasons.

Export of Iron-Ore

872. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of exports of iron-ore from India, category-wise, such as 62 per cent Fe+, 62 per cent Fe- and fines, year-wise, during the last three years;

(b) what are the justifications for continuing exports of iron-ore of different categories and the fines considering the massive investment projects in the steel sector; and

(c) whether the Government would consider stopping exports altogether, except iron-ore containing less than 55 per cent Fe-, considering the limited resources of iron-ore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The estimated volume of iron-ore exports from India, category-wise and year-wise is as follows:—

(Quantity in Million tonnes)

	+62% Fe			-62% Fe			Total	Total	Total
	Lumps	Fines	Total	Lumps	Fines	Total	Lumps	Fines	
2004-05	8.43	45.94	54.37	5.11	18.66	23.77	13.54	64.60	78.14
2005-06 (Prov.)	9.49	33.59	43.08	4.79	41.40	46.19	14.28	74.99	89.27
2006-07 (Apr-Dec 06) (Prov.)	4.76	26.19	30.95	4.15	23.46	27.61	8.91	49.65	58.56

Source: MMTC, KIOCL, GMOEA.

Note: Concentrates & Pellets are included in Fines and Lumps respectively.

(b) The existing iron-ore export policy regulates and promotes judicious use of iron-ore for domestic purpose and export of surplus quantity. Production of iron-ore is in excess of current domestic demand. Besides, the surplus iron-ore fines produced during mining as well as sizing and calibrating lumpy-ore has to be evacuated, failing which it would lead to curtailment of production resulting in unemployment predominantly in tribal areas, increased cost of production, reduction in economic activities and export earnings in addition to causing environmental hazards.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration, at present.

Industrially backward states

873. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrially backward States in the country;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme for development of industrially backward States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;